

# Math 1552

## ***Section 8.4:***

## ***Trigonometric Substitution***

NOT covered  
on quiz 2

"trig subs"

Math 1552 lecture slides adapted from the course materials

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QuizZ: ON Thursday (last 20 mins. of studio):

- FTC (know how to apply it)
- integration by substitution
- IBP
- trig powers and product type integrals
- area between curves (\*)

- NO triq subs. on this quiz
- make you know your special trig angles in ALL quadrants,  
e.g.,  $\cos / \sin(\frac{5\pi}{4})$  or  $\cos / \sin(\frac{7\pi}{4})$

# Today's Learning Goals

- Identify which types of integrals can be solved with a trigonometric substitution *(aka, trig subs)*
- Learn which substitution matches which general form
- Evaluate integrals using the method of trigonometric substitution

# Trigonometric Substitutions

Recall the challenge problem:  
 $\int_0^1 \sqrt{1-x^2} dx = \frac{\pi}{4}$

We use a trig substitution when no other integration method will work, and when the integral contains one of these terms:

$$\begin{array}{lll} a^2 - x^2 & \sqrt{a^2 - x^2} & a > 0 \text{ some} \\ \text{OR } x^2 - a^2 & \text{"} & \text{Constant} \\ \text{OR } a^2 + x^2 & \text{"} & \end{array}$$

# Rules to Trig Substitutions

- Begin by replacing  $x$  with a trig function.

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- Begin by replacing  $x$  with a trig function.
- Don't forget to also replace  $dx$  with the appropriate trig function.

(important)

$$dx = \frac{d}{d\theta} [x(\theta)] * d\theta$$

# Rules to Trig Substitutions

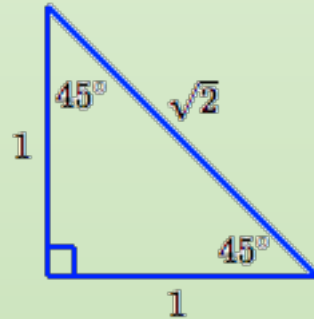
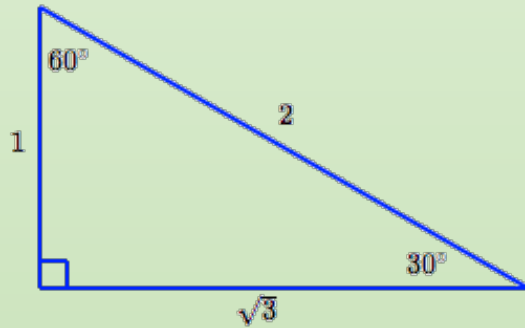
- Begin by replacing  $x$  with a trig function.
- Don't forget to also replace  $dx$  with the appropriate trig function.
- Use trig identities to solve the resulting integral.

# Rules to Trig Substitutions

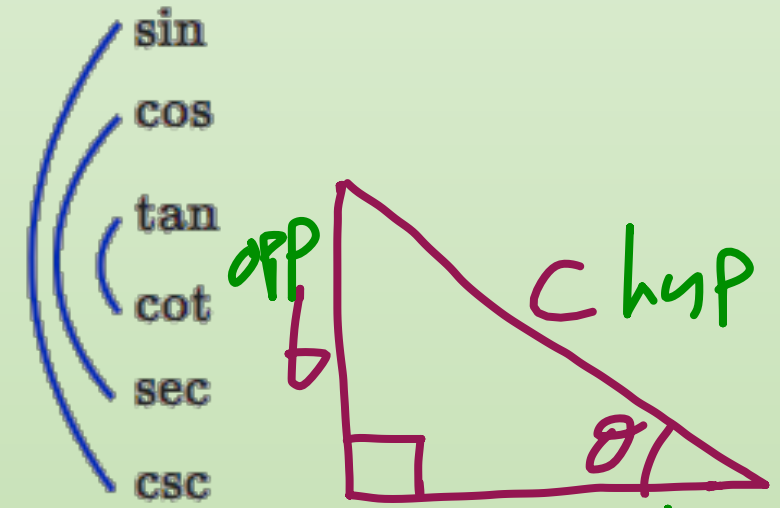
- Begin by replacing  $x$  with a trig function.
- Don't forget to also replace  $dx$  with the appropriate trig function.
- Use trig identities to solve the resulting integral.
- Be sure to rewrite your final answer in terms of  $x$ . (\*)
- *Know how to derive the corresponding right triangle in each of the three cases we consider below without memorizing them*

# Review of Trigonometry

Special right triangles (ratio of sides):



Trig function inverse relationships diagram:



Rules to compute trig functions of right triangles:

**SOHCAHTOA**

Sine Opposite Hypotenuse | Cosine Adjacent Hypotenuse | Tangent Opposite Adjacent

$$a^2 + b^2 = c^2$$

ex:  $\sin(\theta) = b/c$

$$\sec(\theta) = c/a$$

$$\tan(\theta) = b/a$$

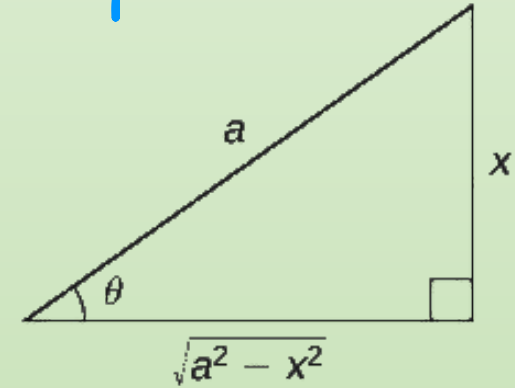
Form 1: When the integral contains a term of the form

$$a^2 - x^2,$$

use the substitution:

$$x = a \sin \theta$$

$$\sin \theta = \frac{x}{a}$$



know how to get this triangle

$$\frac{dx}{d\theta} = a \cos \theta$$

$$dx = a \cdot \cos \theta d\theta$$

$$\begin{aligned} \rightarrow a^2 - x^2 &= a^2 (1 - \sin^2 \theta) \\ &= a^2 \cdot \cos^2 \theta \end{aligned}$$

Credits for figure: <https://math.libretexts.org/Bookshelves/Calculus>

(Book: OpenStax -> Techniques of Integration -> Trigonometric Substitution – Section 7.3)

Example 1: Evaluate the integral:  $\int \boxed{\sqrt{4-x^2}} dx = I$  → "integrand"

→ NOTE: integrand function contains a term  $a^2 - x^2$ , where  $a=2$  (so we will use a trig sub to evaluate  $I$ )

$$\rightarrow x = 2 \sin \theta, \quad dx = 2 \cos \theta d\theta$$

$$\begin{aligned} \sqrt{4-x^2} &= \sqrt{4-4\sin^2\theta} = \sqrt{4(1-\sin^2\theta)} \\ &= \sqrt{4\cos^2\theta} = 2\cos\theta \end{aligned}$$

$$\rightarrow I = \int \overbrace{(2 \cdot \cos \theta)}^{\sqrt{4-x^2}} \overbrace{(2 \cos \theta d\theta)}^{dx}$$

$$= 4 \int \cos^2 \theta d\theta$$

$$= 2 \int (1 + \cos(2\theta)) d\theta$$

$\xrightarrow{\frac{1}{2} \sin(2\theta)}$

$$= 2\theta + \sin(2\theta) + C$$

(recall:  
 $\cos^2 \theta =$   
 $\frac{1}{2} (1 + \cos(2\theta))$   
 (double angle  
 formula))

$$I = 2\theta + 2\cos\theta \cdot \sin(\theta) \cdot K$$

first, simplify by writing:

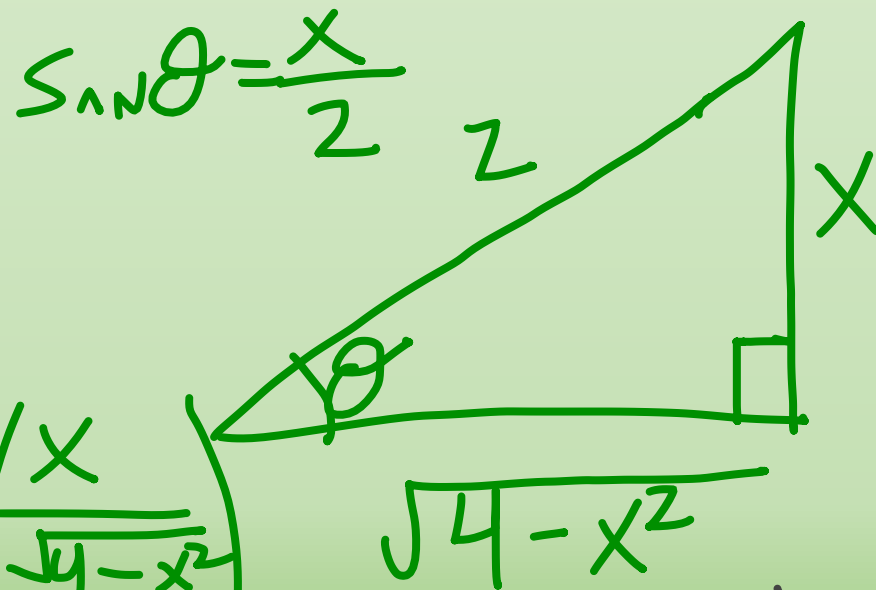
$$\sin(2\theta) = 2\cos\theta \cdot \sin\theta$$

$$\bullet \sin\theta = \frac{x}{2}$$

$$\bullet \cos\theta = \frac{\sqrt{4-x^2}}{2}$$

$$\bullet \theta = \boxed{\sin^{-1}\left(\frac{x}{2}\right)} = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{x}{\sqrt{4-x^2}}\right)$$

$$\left(\tan^{-1}\left(\frac{t}{\sqrt{1-t^2}}\right) = \sin^{-1}(t), t^{\text{real number}}\right)$$



$$\text{So, } I = 2 \sin^{-1}\left(\frac{x}{2}\right)$$

$$+ 2 \cdot \frac{\sqrt{4-x^2}}{2} \cdot \frac{x}{2} + C$$

→ Simplifying:

$$I = 2 \sin^{-1}\left(\frac{x}{2}\right) + \frac{x}{2} \sqrt{4-x^2} + C$$

## Form 2:

When the integral contains a term of the form

$$a^2 + x^2,$$

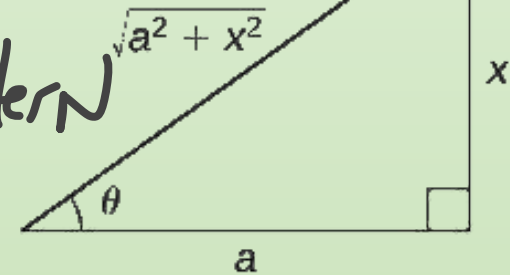
use the substitution:

$$x = a \tan \theta$$

KNOW/MEMORIZE  
this subst.

$$\tan \theta = \frac{x}{a}$$

Pattern



(do NOT  
memorize)

KNOW this  
value by  
right-  
rules

Recall:

$$\tan^2 \theta + 1 = \sec^2 \theta$$

$$dx = a \cdot \sec^2 \theta d\theta$$

$$\begin{aligned} a^2 + x^2 &= a^2 + a^2 \tan^2 \theta \\ &= a^2 (1 + \tan^2 \theta) \\ &= a^2 \cdot \sec^2 \theta \end{aligned}$$

Credits for figure: <https://math.libretexts.org/Bookshelves/Calculus>

(Book: OpenStax -> Techniques of Integration -> Trigonometric Substitution – Section 7.3)

Example 2: Evaluate the integral:  $\int \frac{1}{(9+x^2)^{3/2}} dx = I$

→ the integrand contains a term of the form  $a^2+x^2$ , where  $a=3$   
(this is a key indication to use a trig sub)

$$\rightarrow x = 3 \cdot \tan \theta, \quad dx = 3 \sec^2 \theta d\theta$$

$$(9+x^2)^{3/2} = (9 \sec^2 \theta)^{3/2} = 27 \sec^3 \theta$$

→ Therefore:

$$I = \int \frac{3 \cdot \sec^2 \theta d\theta}{27 \sec^3 \theta} = \frac{1}{9} \int \frac{d\theta}{\sec \theta}$$

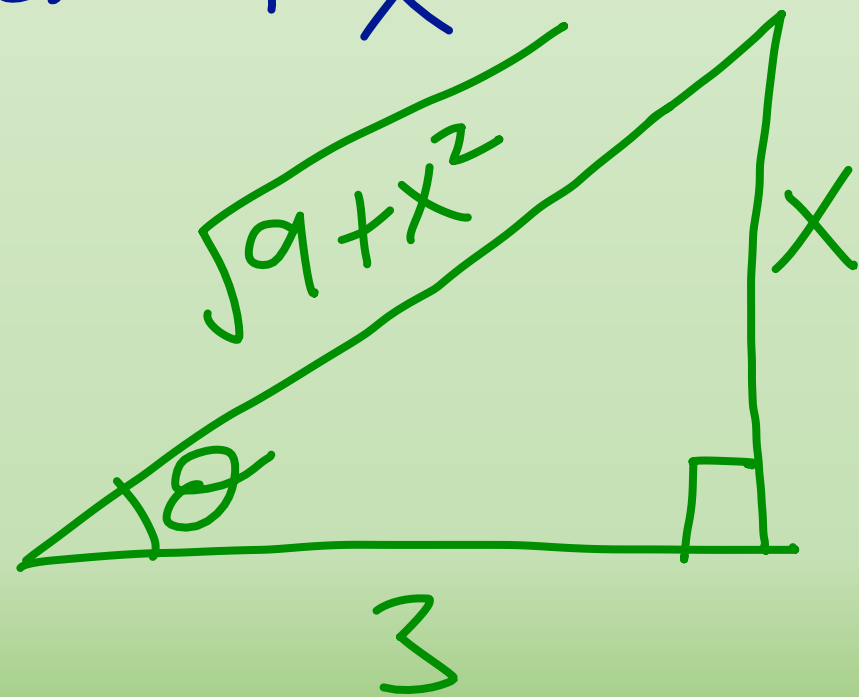
$$= \frac{1}{9} \int \cos \theta d\theta$$

$$= \frac{1}{9} \sin \theta + C$$

→ we need to use our right- $\Delta$  trig rules to convert the antiderivative ( $\sin \theta$ ) into a function of  $x$

$$\tan \theta = \frac{x}{3}$$

$$\text{Need: } \sin \theta = \frac{x}{\sqrt{9+x^2}}$$



→ therefore:  $\underline{I} = \frac{x}{9\sqrt{9+x^2}} + C$

Form 3: When the integral contains a term of the form

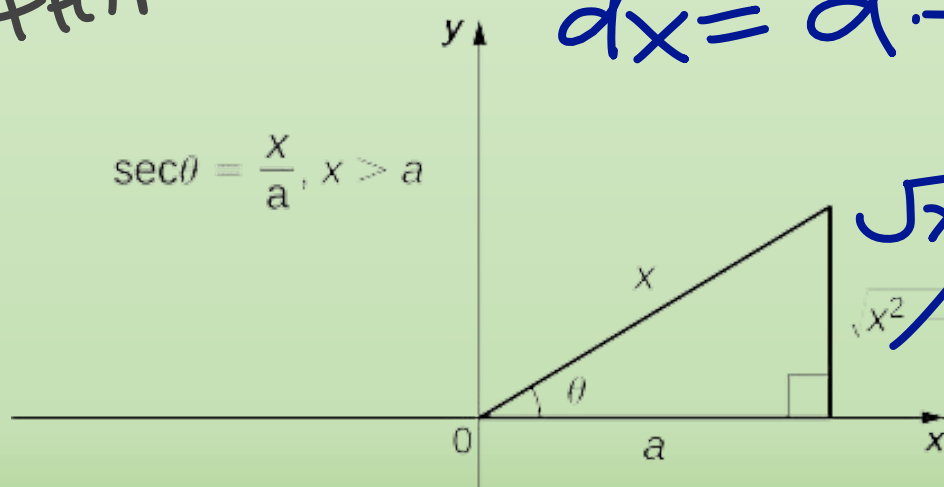
know!  
memorize  
this type  
of subst  
pattern

$x^2 - a^2$ ,  
use the substitution:

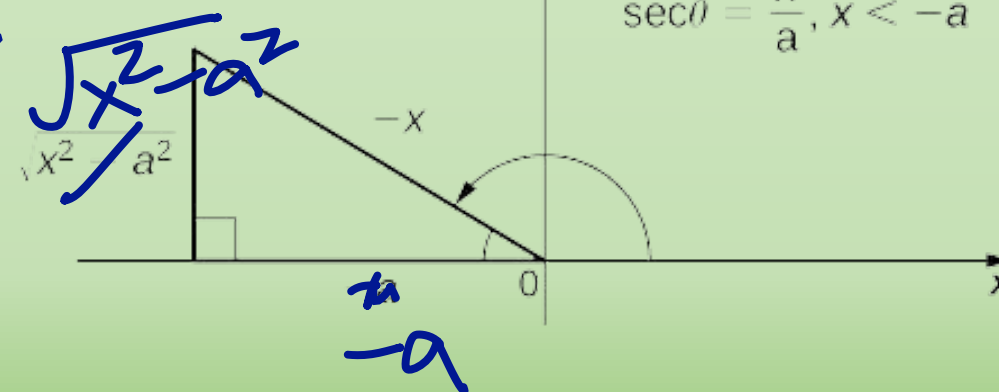
$$x = a \sec \theta$$

$$x^2 - a^2 = a^2 (\sec^2 \theta - 1) \\ = a^2 \cdot \tan^2 \theta$$

$$dx = a \cdot \tan \theta \sec \theta \cdot d\theta$$



$$\sqrt{x^2 - a^2}$$



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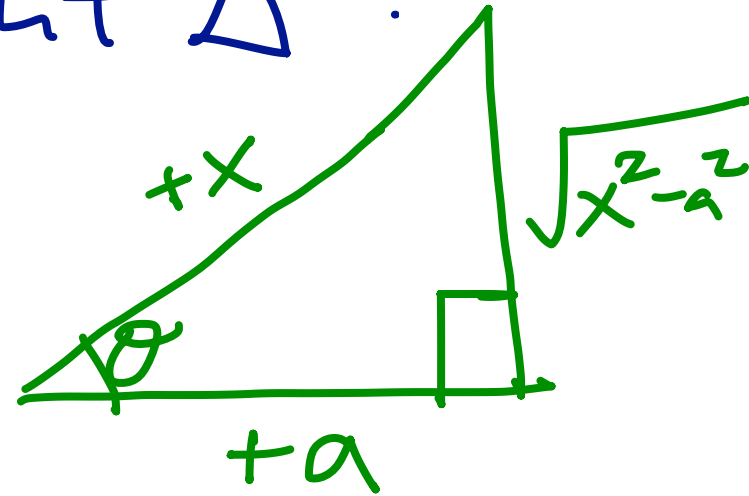
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trig sub: have terms with  $x^2 - a^2$ ,  $a > 0$

$$\rightarrow x = a \sec \theta$$

① first case of the corresp. right  $\Delta$ :

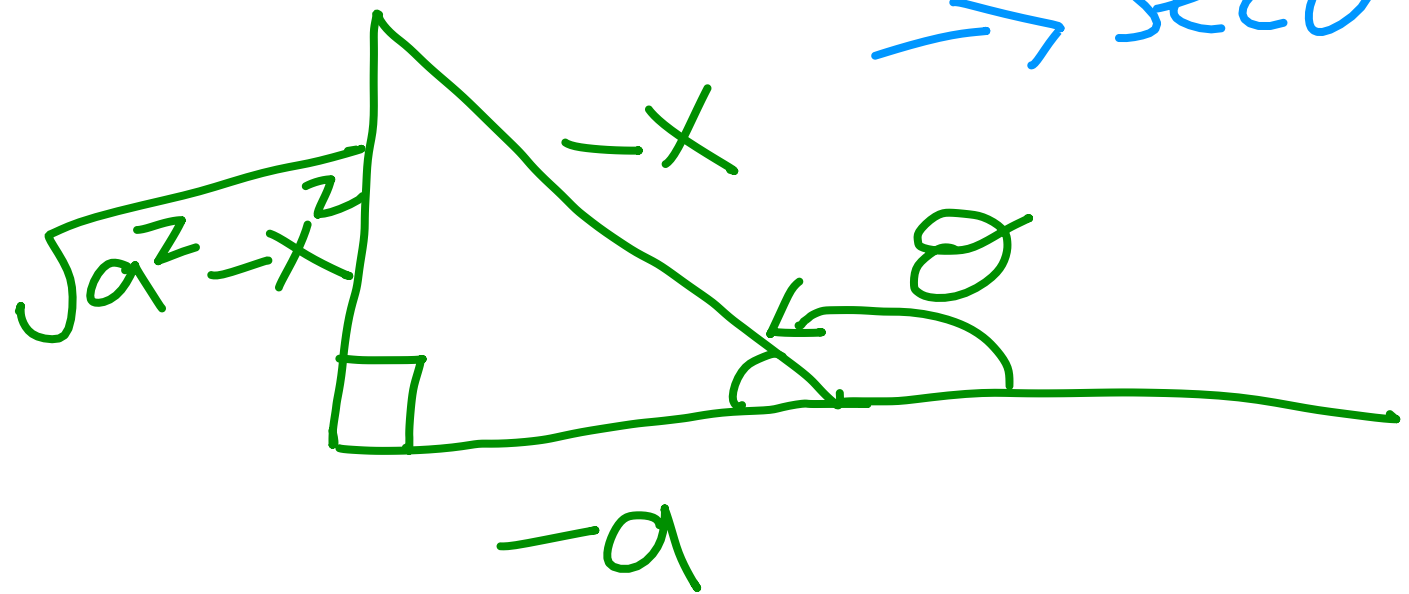
$$x > a \iff x^2 - a^2 > 0$$



② second case:  $x$  is negative  $x < -a$

$$\iff x^2 > a^2 \iff x^2 - a^2 > 0$$

Second  
quadrant  
for  $\theta$



$$\rightarrow \sec \theta = \frac{-x}{-a} = \frac{x}{a}$$

Example 3: Evaluate the integral:  $\int \frac{1}{x^4 \sqrt{x^2 - 1}} dx = I$

→ our integrand has a term of the form  $x^2 - a^2$ , for  $a = 1$   
(we are in "trig sub land")

→  $x = \sec \theta$ ,  $dx = \tan \theta \sec \theta d\theta$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \sqrt{x^2 - 1} &= \sqrt{\sec^2 \theta - 1} = \sqrt{\tan^2 \theta} \\ &= \tan \theta \end{aligned}$$

$$I = \int \frac{\cancel{\tan \theta} \cancel{\sec \theta} d\theta}{\sec^3 \theta \cdot \cancel{\tan \theta}}$$

$$= \int \cos^3 \theta d\theta \quad \left( \text{Recall that: } \cos^2 \theta = 1 - \sin^2 \theta \right)$$

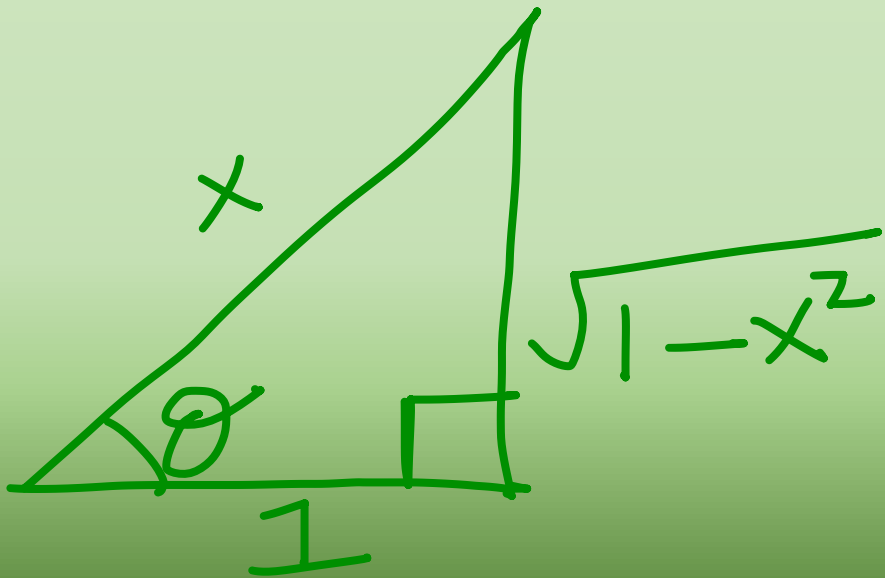
$$= \int (1 - \sin^2 \theta) \cos \theta d\theta$$

$$= \int (1 - u^2) du$$

$$\left[ \begin{array}{l} \text{u-sub:} \\ u = \sin \theta, \\ du = \cos \theta d\theta \end{array} \right.$$

$$= u - \frac{u^3}{3} + C$$

$$= \sin \theta - \frac{\sin^3 \theta}{3} + C$$



$$\frac{x}{1} = \sec \theta = \frac{\text{hyp}}{\text{adj}}$$

$$\sin \theta = \frac{\sqrt{1-x^2}}{x}$$

→ therefore:

$$I = \frac{\sqrt{1-x^2}}{x} - \frac{1}{3x^3} (1-x^2)^{3/2} + C$$

$$\frac{1}{3} \sin^3 \theta$$

$$= \frac{1}{3} \left( \frac{\sqrt{1-x^2}}{x} \right)^3$$